

MEN WHO CONDUCT GOVERNMENT IN VACATION TIME NEARLY UNKNOWN

Nine Live Young Men Are Today Transacting Affairs of As Many Great Departments in Washington—Cabinet Officers Represented by Inferiors, but President Takes Capital With Him.



CHARLES P. GRANDFIELD, ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL. W. P. FISCHER, AT THE WHITE HOUSE. W. P. HARR, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.



HUNTINGTON WILSON, AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. WILLET H. HAYS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE. FRANK PIERCE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.



BENJAMIN STOKNEY CABLE, ASST. SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND LABOR. JOHN W. CONDIT, ASST. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY. CHARLES P. GRANDFIELD, ASST. POSTMASTER GENERAL.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—(Special.)—There is a new bunch on the job in Washington keeping the wheels of government on the move. The big chiefs are away on their vacations, and the still younger men behind the throne are performing their tasks. Yet withal there seems no interruption in the government of the 50,000,000.

Yet who knows who are the ranking officials in Washington today? Who knows the men who would be called upon to take the places of the cabinet officers or of the President himself if emergency should arise calling for immediate action? Well, there are good men and true at the helm. There are cynical ones who will say that these lesser officials are really the men who do the business which reaches the light of day through their chiefs even when those gentlemen are not on their vacations. For the lesser men are more likely to remain through the changes of varying administrations and are therefore more familiar with the detail of the work in hand than are their chiefs. But cabinet members are men of high mind and experience, and an ignorance of detail may not be used against them.

The President takes his capital with him when he leaves Washington. It may be at Beverly, it may be on a launch off the coast of Maine. It was at Panama once during Roosevelt's administration, and it was on an American bottom on all points between Panama and Washington. It is always under the hat of the President. There is no Assistant President as long as the President is alive. But there are assistant secretaries of the departments, and these have all the powers of their chiefs. The signature of one of these is just as binding as that of one of the heads of the departments.

Not One Cabinet Officer Left.—The President is therefore holding the job and officially at the helm wherever his vacation may be taking him. But not one of the cabinet men is home. Not one of the great departments in Washington. Not a cabinet officer is left on the job. The secretary of a great quiet has settled down over the Nation's capital. But it is nevertheless the center from which the biggest business in the world is being conducted, and these nine young men are running the business. For instance, at the Department of State, his finger is upon the pulse of the foreign relations and the myriad of its details while Mr. Knox is away. Assistant Secretary Wilson is as imperturbable and inapproachable in hot weather as when it is cold. He never allows a man to reach him without first knocking his heels for three hours in the outer office. It would be undiplomatic to have it otherwise and Mr. Wilson is nothing if not diplomatic. His demeanor is carefully guarded. He speaks with much caution. When he does speak he carefully expounds all meaning from anything he says. It was for this that he was promoted some years ago from a secretaryship at Peñon to a third assistant secretaryship at the State Department. It was for this that he was called back from the ministry to Argentina, to which he had just been appointed to take the first assistantship under the present administration.

Yet even Mr. Wilson is known to have relapsed for a moment this summer into an almost plebeian appreciation of the oppressiveness of labor at a desk while all the world is taking its vacation. Some days ago he hung petulantly for his messenger. When that attendant in ebony appeared, the acting secretary ordered him to go for a tub and intercept an ice wagon on the way. When both arrived post haste the tub was ordered into the dining room and the spokesman of the office and the man who was called back from the ministry from an Asiatic post was admitted into the sanctuaries.

Young Man of Wealth Works.—Around the corner from Mr. Wilson is Beekman Winthrop, Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Here is a young man of great wealth who might be cruising as free as the wind on his own yacht at the dictate of fancy and who is by preference perspiring over a departmental desk in Washington. But Mr. Winthrop has succeeded in making himself a useful citizen and a man of great ability despite the absence of the necessity of working. He has labored unceasingly despite inherited wealth. Mr. Winthrop, who sits on the lid for Secretary Meyer, was graduated from

he trots over to the Treasury Department and gives back a few millions of the mazzama that has been set aside for his Department. It is not needed. Mr. Frank Pierce is running over to Europe and will later go to Arizona. In the meantime the eagle screams from being squeezed with the Missouriian on the lid. At the Interior Department while Mr. Ballinger is denying reports that he is going to resign and traveling through the public domain out West, Pierce is First Assistant at Interior and has become so accustomed to the heat of antagonisms that have run riot during recent controversies that he is a Presbyterian. He was a Utah by adoption rather than by birth, having first seen the light of day up Vermont way. He likes Utah but does not like to get so close to the place where Gifford Pinchot lives. Likewise in Washington a much cooler place than that to which the conservation crowd would like to see the Assistant Secretary of the Interior. But this leads to questions too heated for the dog days. Suffice it to say that Mr. Pierce will be in town all summer.

Wilson Out in West.—Mr. Wilson, the Secretary of Agriculture, the man who has held a cabinet position longer than anybody else, is looking into forest problems in the West, and Professor Hays, his assistant, is calling in measured numbers to the farmers to look in the book and see that it is right before they plant their crops in the old way. Professor Hays is the big thinker of the agricultural world. He knows all about why and where and why things grow. He taught the farmers in Minnesota how to double the production of flax by using the right sort of seed. He has hammered good seed into the farmers of the country to the tune of increased production amounting to tens and possibly hundreds of millions a year. The production of an average cornfield can be doubled by breeding the right sort of seed. The same is true of wheat, cotton, or any of the other crops. Hays is on the job insisting on this.

Hays is also the consolidated rural school. He has been in the regular army, as his name might imply, and came to his present post as a civilian. His great enthusiasm is the militia. He holds down the desk at the Department at Washington during the absence of his chief unless there are calls to visit some of the militia encampments in the mountains. It happens that through August there are many such calls. General Oliver will consequently be much away from Washington.

Scotfield Takes Desk.—In his absence another of those detail men who have the intricacies of the departments at their finger tips will be in charge. This man is John W. Scotfield, whose title is that of chief clerk of the department. Mr. Scotfield has been chief clerk for a long time, but the title of assistant has recently been given him, that he might be authorized to act as Secretary of War. Mr. Scotfield began as a clerk 22 years ago and has gradually advanced until he is now signing orders for his government in all things military.

Over at the White House there is an ominous stillness. Wendell W. Mischler, assistant secretary to the President, is in charge. Mischler is the most negative man in the world. His specialty is stenography. He can take dictation at the rate of a million miles a minute and reproduces his notes even to the intonation of the speaker's voice. He was the still and fitting shadow that was constantly at Mr. Taft's elbow during the campaign and not one word that his chief uttered in all these months misad being recorded in his note book. He is the human graphophone cylinder. His mission is to receive and reproduce dictation. To think or act otherwise would be sacrilege.

Much of the President's mail still comes to the White House. There are hundreds of letters that require certain stereotyped answers. These answers are numbered. All letters falling into number one basket are answered in that personal and intimate formula which states that the President is forced to decline the invitation so kindly forwarded because of his other engagements. There are a score of boxes with these formal answers attached. The Summer White House is busied in neatly typewriting them and putting them in the mail. Likewise the mail from Beverly is returned to Washington to be filed away. There is a train load of President's mail on file there. These tasks are the activities which are housed in the little box wing of the White House which is the most important business office in America.

Cable is Busy Young Man.—Mr. Cable is a busy young man. Yet it does not come hard for him. He has been busy all his life. He is from the busy burg of Chicago, where he has been busily administering the affairs under the direction of his father, Ransom R. Cable, president of the Rock Island. He is a Yale man, a graduate of the Columbia University law school and a member of a score of fraternities and clubs. But above all he is Acting Secretary of Commerce and Labor and is discharging all the duties of that office right off the reel without a by-your-leave to anybody.

Charles P. Grandfield, First Assistant Postmaster-General, is another of the man-on-the-job sort. He has been in the Postoffice Department for 25 years. He began at \$1000 as a clerk, and says there is not a job in the whole department he has not held. He knows postal detail from top to bottom and upside down.

Mr. Grandfield was chief clerk for Mr. Hitchcock when the latter was Assistant Postmaster-General. He was promoted when Mr. Hitchcock got the cabinet portfolio. Six months ago he was appointed postmaster for the city of Washington. He has been so busy upstairs that he has had no opportunity to take charge of the new job, which is on the ground floor of the same building. He is still Assistant Postmaster-General and the postmasterhip is waiting.

The cause of this detention is the strenuous effort that the Postmaster-General is making to run the Department without a deficit. Two years ago Uncle Sam went in the hole \$17,000,000 in the postal business. The figures for the year ending June 30 last are not yet available, but Mr. Grandfield states that they will be around \$5,000,000, a reduction of \$12,000,000 in a single season. For the coming year the Postmaster-General and his First Assistant are resolved that there shall be no deficit. They hold that at the present rate the Department will pay its way. They claim that there can be no miscarriage of plans unless the public simply gets its back up and quits licking stamps.

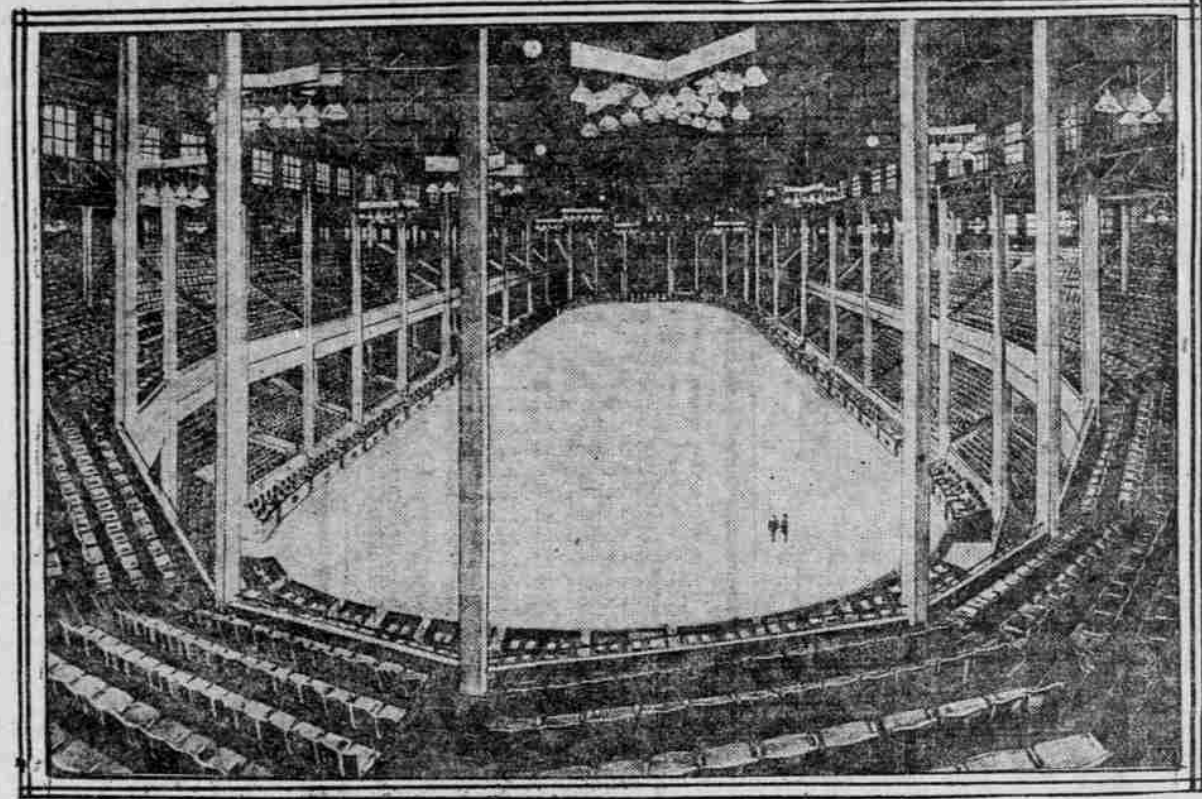
Missourian Must Be "Shown."—Mr. Grandfield is watching the game in the absence of his superior with just this purpose in mind. He is a native of Missouri and requires a demonstration whenever it is proposed to spend any of the postal fund. About once a month

REPLICA OF ST. LOUIS AUDITORIUM FAVORED BY VINSON FOR PORTLAND

Representative of Local Association Returns From Tour of Inspection of Municipal Halls in Middle West Cities, Impressed More Than Ever With Need of Similar Building Here.



ST. LOUIS COLISEUM



INTERIOR VIEW

AFTER a six weeks' tour of the East, where he visited 14 of the principal cities for the purpose of studying plans of auditoriums and methods used for establishing these municipal enterprises, W. A. Vinson returned to Portland, Wednesday, fully convinced that a similar undertaking on the part of the people of Portland would be most laudable.

Since the matter was first agitated jointly by the members of the Monday Musical Club and Daughters of the Confederates, last March, considerable interest has been manifested by the citizens generally, and in order to place the proposition before the public in a definite manner, the Portland Auditorium Association was subsequently formed. Under the auspices of this organization, Mr. Vinson was sent East to visit the auditoriums of the large cities and gather all information deemed essential in outlining plans for a Portland auditorium.

During Mr. Vinson's absence in the East, the matter had become a subject of popular interest and received the warm sanction and support of the Portland Commercial Club. So that at the present time, with the Portland Auditorium Association tentatively organized to exploit the undertaking and backed by the Portland Commercial Club, the chances seem most favorable for the building of an auditorium equal to any in the country.

One of the largest and best arranged auditoriums which Mr. Vinson inspected was the St. Louis Auditorium. This structure occupies ground 150 by 200 feet, leased for a term of 20 years. The building cost \$350,000 and funds for the enterprise was acquired by a popular stock subscription. The building has a seating capacity of 10,000 people and is so arranged that several meetings can be held at the same time. The largest compartment is capable of seating 6000 people and is used for conventions, grand opera, industrial shows, horse shows, automobile shows,

electric and flower shows, winter circus and concerts. The larger of the other two compartments seats about 3500 and the small one about 1500 persons.

The Milwaukee Auditorium is also a magnificent affair, says Mr. Vinson. An entire city block, 400 by 400 feet, is devoted to this public enterprise and the building occupies space 800 by 300 feet, leaving plenty of room for parking. There are seven different convention halls ranging in seating capacity from 500 to 5000 persons.

Among other cities visited by Mr. Vinson, where there are public auditoriums, were St. Paul, Kansas City, Omaha, Detroit, Denver and Des Moines. "After making an inspection of the various auditoriums, I am of the opinion that a replica of the St. Louis auditorium, with a few modifications, would be best adapted to Portland's needs," said Mr. Vinson. "Possibly, a combination of the best features of the auditoriums of St. Louis and Mil-

waukee could be used to even better advantage. In the event that Portland succeeds in securing funds for an auditorium, we will have sufficient data to guide us in constructing one of the best edifices of the kind in the country. It now remains for the people of Portland to determine whether such a public building is desired.

"As an important asset to a city, it has been demonstrated to me that money cannot be expended to better advantage. For example, Kansas City has found the institution so profitable to the city that the sum of \$100,000 is now being raised for purely advertisement purposes. When large conventions are secured for that city, nothing is spared in the way of funds to exploit such occasions.

"If we intend making Portland the 'convention city,' the first thing for us to do is to build an auditorium. As to natural scenery and points of interest, we have something to show visitors that none of the cities I visited can offer."

VAUDEVILLE HOUSES TO INTERCHANGE STARS

LOCAL vaudeville houses have received official intimation that John W. Condit, head of the Sullivan-Condit circuit, which operates the Grand Theater in Portland, concerned in the vaudeville deal recently made between Martin Beck and Alfred Butt, Beck and Martin Meyerfeld, representing the Orpheum circuit, are, or have been in London, where they consummated a deal with Alfred Butt, chairman of the board of directors of the Varieties Theatres Controlling Company, Limited, on lines that will permit the interchange of stars from European to American time and vice versa.

The variety concern controls the Barrensford houses spread out over the English provinces, in Paris and Berlin, London, London, the English Limited, which consists of a string of houses in London and environs. While no intimation to that effect has been circulated here, it is extremely probable that a joint booking office will be established both in New York and in London, and an artist booked in Berlin, Paris, London, the English provinces and thence to the United States. Artists booked in New York will probably make the circuit the other way.

This means benefit incalculable would be conferred on theater patrons on both sides of the water. There would be a continually fresh appropriation of stars to America, while the best American talent, which up to now has rarely been found abroad, would be seen in the foreign houses. Such artists as Arthur Berardo, who showed several months ago at the Orpheum in a novel quick change act, would become accessible to American audiences immediately.

The news of the agreement created quite a sensation in London, and writers in some of the London papers, not aware of vaudeville conditions here, have not hesitated to say Butt was mistaken. There seems to be a general impression that there were theaters here to compare with the London houses. At present for an American circuit to obtain European artists considerable additional outlay is required. An artist engaged in London for a foreign circuit demands and receives a considerably higher pay than he would in England. Similarly an English circuit engaging a New Yorker has to submit to the same thing.

Under the new arrangement this will probably be done away with. The artist will sign up for so many months and a route will be outlined. This route will probably include a definite stay in each country. There may be a special arrangement for crossing the Atlantic, but at present this can be done with less expense than is involved in traveling by rail from Portland to San Francisco.

The following theaters are concerned abroad in the agreement: Palace Theater and Victoria Palace, London; Alhambra Theater, Paris; Alhambra Theater, Glasgow; Hippodrome, Liverpool; Hippodrome, Leeds; Hippodrome, Hull; Hippodrome, Birmingham; Hippodrome, Portsmouth; Hippodrome, Bournemouth; Hippodrome, South End; Hippodrome, Margate; Hippodrome, Boscombe; Hippodrome, Southampton; Hippodrome, Sheffield; Hippodrome, Colchester; Hippodrome, Bolton; Hippodrome, St. Helens; Hippodrome, Nottingham; Hippodrome, Blackburn; Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Palace, Manchester; Empire, Wolverhampton; Opera-House, Turnbridge Wells; Grand, Bristol; Empire, Aberdeen, Scotland.

IMMERSION CONSECRATES 400 STUDENTS



RAJAH RUSSELL. BAPTIST AT CHAUTAUQUA.

NEW YORK, Aug. 20.—(Special.)—A feature of the annual convention of the International Bible Students' Association which was held at Celeron, Chautauqua Lake, near Jamestown, was the immersion of 400 persons, as a sym-

bol of consecration, on two Sundays. More than 600 delegates were in attendance at this convention, which was the largest ever held in Lake Chautauqua district. It was presided over by J. G. Kuehn, of Cleveland. Rev. Mr. Russell, who is president of the association, was

the speaker at two of the Sunday public meetings. He has just returned from a trip to Palestine, where he investigated modern Zionism.

Rev. Mr. Russell also spoke at Royal Albert Hall, in London, three times, to enormous audiences.